Considerations to Bear in Mind in Choose a Rad-Some Hundreds of Flies, but Only About Fifty Used Commo -Valuable Points for the Fisherman

It would be difficult to make an accurate gress at the number of trout fishermen who will go afield after Salvelinus fontinalis, the most beautiful fish that swims during the season of 1907. A goodly pro portion of these will frequent the stream of lower New England and the Middle States, but the great majority will hie northward into Maine, Nova Scotia New Branswick, Canada and the Adirondacks, where the fish run larger.

Not that size matters greatly. No greater mistake, from the standpoint of sportsma ship, was ever made than to judge of a by its size alone. This in spite of the false though persistent glamour that surrounds the capture of gigantic trout. Big fat trout are seldom hard fighters, though their very weight of course is apt to prolong the fight. As well judge manby the size of individuals.

The first days of the trout season are all too apt to be cold and raw and the results are almost never very satisfactory, and vet there are anglers who would miss the first day on the stream with as much suffering as a first nighter would the premier of the latest European success. There is ich to be said for this devotee.

For weeks, nay, months, he has be working himself up to this day, and when it dawns he would certainly consider himsalf a very aggrieved person if he did not awake to find himself at the little fishing inn on his favorite stream, with his brogues and his tackle waiting beside the bed. Up in the fine old State of Maine, where the law allows fishing as soon as the ice has left the waters, you will see rows of fishermen with names and bank accounts, sitting on the verandas of the luxurious hotels. or so-called camps, where you can dress for dinner in the evening, gazing with hatred at the obstinate covering of and snow which refuses to budge.

Let us take up the different imple used in the sport, and see what kind of outfit is necessary. In the first place it makes a big difference whether you are to fish at the most half a dozen times in the season. or whether you may reckon yourself among the happy mortals who can get a couple of weeks at least in the wilderness. In the former case the quality of the rod, for instance, is not of so much importance, and reserve tackle is secondary.

THE BOD.

Most writers declare that only the best and therefore the highest priced rods should be purchased-excellent general advice that should be followed if vour pocketbook can stand a strain of from \$25 to \$35. But if you are a novice, do not begin your career with such a valuable article; it would be like putting a "Strad" violin in the hands of a beginner.

In such a case buy a \$5 extra quality ancewood rod nine feet long, or a greenheart of about the same length, rather onger than shorter. If, however, you are to fish a stream the banks of which are so overgrown that the use of a landing net s generally impossible and the fish, when tired out, must be lifted out of the water, a somewhat stiffer rod is necessary.

This may be either a heavier fly rod, say seven or seven and a half ounces, or a eap grade of split bamboo, costing \$3 or \$4. In fact this is about the only kind of an ever be used with advantage. A very good plan if you do not wish to buy two rods is to have a third tip, shorter and stiffer than the other two, made for your good rod.

A word as to handles. Most cheap rods ave either hard rubber or so-called cork handles. The hard rubber is very slippery when wet and therefore difficult to hold. The cork handle is composed of wood, over which thin and flimsy cork sheets are pasted. which come off in due time, to the disgust of the owner.

If you have one that acts in this way get the cork off as soon as possible and wind he handle with fine twine and you will ave a good handle. Genuine cork handles are invariably described in the dealers' catalogues as "solid cork handles," and are made of a series of solid cork disks. They are furnished with rods costing at east \$7.50, generally more, and are the lest. The best cheap handles are cane or twine wound, preferably twine.

The best thing a novice can do is to go ome reputable dealer, state his case and ase what he gives you, remembering, lowever, the advice given here, for dealers have their own prejudiced ideas. For the average fly fisherman a 91/2 or 10 foot split bamboo rod weighing from 51/2 to 6 ounces may be recommended. The stronger the wrist the heavier may be the rod, but 7 unces is considered quite heavy in this country. Fifteen dollars will buy a very good split bamboo rod. Anything cheaper hould be of wood.

Whether your rod is cheap or dear give it good treatment; if good it deserves it, if heap it needs it badly. Never leave it standing out all night in the open, as too many lazy people do. If you do not take t down either stand it indoors in as nearly vertical position as possible or hang it up by the tip or lay it on a series of pegs in such manner that the parts will not be subected to unequal strain.

If wet wipe the rod dry after use. If ferrules stick carry a tube of graphite and put a little on the ferrules before ointing. If you can't get them apart warm the joint with a match, being careful not o in ure the wood. Don't wrench and wist and jerk the rod too much. If you are satisfied that the ferrules do not fit rub the male with emery powder, but very cautiously, testing the fit every few rubs. Never use a rod if a guide ring has come off until this is replaced or the rod will be

For fly fishing the reel need not hold more han thirty yards of line. Two general sins should be warned against. Never use a multiplying reel, for it is unsportsmanlike and unnecessary, and never buy a bright reel (nickel or German silver) that reflects the rays of the sun and frightens the fish. Get a single action reel and one that is or of dull bronze. Reels cost from 60 cents for a very light rod and \$1.60, which is what the young fisherman should pay,

Always have at least one spare reel with you, ready filled with line. A fine reel "lould always be kept in a chamois bag or case and wiped carefully after use. The very best of reel oil should be put into it and very little of that. Benzine should be used to clean reels. Don't monkey with a good feel if you do not understand the mechanlam perfectly; rather ship it back to the maker for repairs.

THE LINE. Ino kinds of waterproof silk lines are on the market, the hard American enamel and.

more flexible and better on the whole, but

The expert angler uses tapered lines e., such as are of a certain size for the greater part but taper off at each and, the principal object being to allow the end of the line to alight softly on the water. Most fishermen use the common level line, which costs from \$1.25 to \$2 for a coil of twenty-five yards in the proper qualities. Tapered ines cost more.

The usual size for this country is E. though F may be used with a very light rod. Lines should be wiped dry before being put away, and at the end of the season should be taken from the reels and wound on large line dryers or put away in large coils. Thirty five or even twenty-five yards will do for the average fisherman, unless he is to troll, which is not trout fishing.

To the line is attached the leader of silkworm gut, which should be from 6 to 9 feet long, 6 feet being enough for a light rod if only two flies are used. The gut should be light, most of that sold in this country for trout being strong enough to hold a salmon. It is usual to tint the gut a gray mist color or some other shade supposed to be less conspicuous than the white gut, but the writer's experience is that the natural gut, being colorless reflects the colors of the surroundings and is thus probably less easily seen than when colored, and thus rendered more

Leaders should be kept in special metal boxes between sheets of felt, which are kept moistened in the season, as no leader should be used before it has been thoroughly softened by soaking. There are very good aluminum leader boxes to be had for 25 cents each, as well as others of more elaborate construction.

ONE FLY? OR TWO? OR THREE? American leaders are provided with a loop at the top for attachment to the line, a second at the bottom end for the tail fly and either one or two between these for the dropper fly or flies. This brings up the question of how many flies one should use on the cast.

No doubt the vast army of fishermer pretty generally use three, but the more sportsmanlike only two or even one. Of course, if one confines himself to a single fly the excitement of taking doubles or trebles must be given up. The general idea is that if three flies of different patterns are used the trout will be sure to take one

This is a specious argument, for who ever heard of a fisherman, after he had dis-covered which of the three flies was really preferred, proceeding to take off the other two? No, the true reason for the three flies, and in a less degree for two, is fish hoggishness pure and simple, the desire to catch as many as possible, the fear that the other fellow will bring back a fuller creel than your own.

This feeling is the bane, the microbe which militates against real anglership Once on the celebrated Shelburn River in Nova Scotia, when the fish were rising as if they were engaged in a fly catching tournament, I set out to discover how many trout I could hook, play and net within an hour, merely to find the capacity of the stream at its heat

I took my stiffest rod, a strong leader and two flies-even then I could not bring myself to the humiliation of using threeand, as the fish ranged between one-half and one pound only, I was able to bring them to the net in short order. The result was forty fish, or more than one in two minutes. Al were returned uninjured to the water.

It was magnificent, but not war; and I remember changing at once to a lighter rod and lighter tackle, with the result that I took three one-pounders on a single No. 8 all I wanted to do to avoid the shipwreck of rod and gut. Those were the two ex-tremes—hoggishness, which gives little chance to the fish, and fine fishing, which depends upon skill and gives the quarry every chance.

TROUT FLIES.

Of trout flies there are some hundreds though perhaps not more than fifty of these are commonly used. Pattern and size must depend on the locality and the season of the outing. As a general rule the further south we go, say in Connecticut or Pennsylvania, the more closely do the flies used esemble the actual insects upon which the fish feed; for instance, Red Spinner, Red Hackle, Brown Palmer, March Brown, Black Gnat, Beaverkill, Cahill, Alder, Cowdung, Gray Drake, all of which are made, unscientifically it is true, to imitate in a general way the flies on the water in spring and summer. Of the above you may take in your fly book from two to half a dozen each, and add a few of the following: Silver Doctor, Cinnamon, Yellow Bodied Professor and Brown Hackle with herl body.

But when you go north into Maine and Canada you will find that the trout are less sophisticated and less given to splitting hairs over the exact difference between the real and the artificial insect. In a word the northern trout does not commonly take the artificial fly for a fly, but for just something to eat.

In no other way can the curious fact be explained that he seems rather to prefer certain gaudy combinations of feathers and tinsel that have no resemblance whatever to any known insect. In these waters your fly book must contain Silver Doctor, Jock Scott, Parmachenee Belle, Brown Hackle (both red and herl body), Montreal, Jungle Cock, Coachman, Professor, Gray Hackle, Jenny Lind, Alder, Red Ibis, Royal Coach-

man. Doctor Breck. In southern waters smaller sizes are used, Nos. 10 and 12 being preferred, though No. 8 is common. Up north 6 and 8 are usual, though for quiet waters 8 and 10 are better. The smaller the hook the more chance has the trout and the greater the triumph in taking him.

American flies are invariably tied upon snelled hooks, those with helpers or double gut for an inch from the fly being strongest. English flies, which are generally better and more delicately tied, have eyed hooks with no gut, the leader, which has no loop in the end, being passed through the eye of the hook and fastened with a half hitch or jam

Flies with snells should have the latter well soaked before using, but the hooks should be kept from the water or they will rust. A very good aluminum box for this purpose may be bought for 65 cents, consisting of sheets of felt between which the snells are placed, while the flies themselves

are protected from the moisture. Of fly books there is a large variety Pigskin is the best covering, though expenaive, and one does well to have at least one really strong and fine book. A cheaper one may be filled every morning for the pocket to be used on the stream.

Keep the book sprinkled inside with powdered camphor of some other good moth discourager, especially when you put it away in the fall.

Many anglers, especially young ones stick their hats full of flies. This isn't an altogether bad place for them when wanted for immediate use, but they should not be left there day after day, or the colors will

inevitably fade. When three flies are used the two lowest. the soft English enamel. The latter is should be at least 30 inches apart, with the

upper dropper at least 20 inches above the one. When two are used the dropper

hould be a yard above the tail fly. Which of the two should be the brights in tint is a question the answer to which may be left to experience. As a rule angier begin with two flies of quite different hue. But try fishing with one only.

NET AND CREEL.

On all waters but those surrounded by overhanging, bushy banks a landing net s necessary for fish of any size, for even strong rod would be strained severely by ally derricking out small fish unless the top were especially stout and stiff. There are two varieties of landing net that with a long jointed handle and the short handled net with a rubber con with which to suspend it around the neck The latter is made for wading.

The long handled net is the best for fishing from the bank or in heavy water or from boats. Some like it for wading reacherous streams, as the handle can be used as a staff. The proper net is not a light, flimsy thing, but a solid, braided linen net with square bottom and not too large mesh

If you go afoot and intend bringing home all you catch, a creel, or willow fish basket. is necessary. The creel should be lined with fresh moss or leaves and the trout should be each covered with fresh leaves sthey are laid in. Mr. Keene says that If wrapped individually in tissue paper as soon as caught the trout will preserve their original brilliant coloring.

When emptied the creel should be thoroughly washed and dried in the sun to keep t sweet. On long journeys by boat or cance creeks are often more bother than worth, as, if you make a side trip for trout, they may be strung up a double withe. On such journeys you never keep more than the camp can eat, which is very seldom a creelful at one time.

As a general rule fly fishing is remunerative on warm days, as the fish are then livelier and seem to know that the natural insects are more numerous than in raw, cold weather. It is therefore hardly necessary to rise with the sun in early spring when the mornings are chilly, and especially is this the case in northe

After repeated trials before 8 in the morning before July I have finally fallen into the habit of waiting for half past 8 or even 9 o'clock before casting a fly. It is a matter of the temperature.

In summer weather the trout are no o much on the feed in the hotter parts of the day, with the result that early rising has its advantages. At all seasons just before sundown is a good time to fish. indeed perhaps the best.

It is very difficult to lay down more than very general rules, for no man knoweth or can foretell the vagaries of Salvelinus continalis. He has even been known to rise freely during a thunderstorm, entirely contrary to all the rules of the game as aid down in books from the time of Dame Berners to the present day.

ADVICE FOR ANGLERS

When you come to fish the stream remem ber the following hints: Use the wind in casting if you can, but be careful that your shadow does not fall upon the water. On quiet, unruffled pools be careful to keep back from the bank. In quick water you may wade with impunity, as the trout can see nothing above the surface if it is wrinkled.

Our American streams are almost all more or less torrential, making it impracticable to fish in the English mannerupstream; we therefore wade down, the current helping to float the flies. Nevertheless if you come to a quiet pool go 'round to its foot and cast upstream for the fish lie with heads to the current.

The cast need not be directly [against the current, but diagonally across the stream. Cast in such manner that the flies will, as far as possible, fall of their own weight and thus alight upon the water as the natural fly does.

To accomplish this, aim in casting at point a yard above the spot where you wish your flies to light. The flies are allowed to trail in the current for an instant 'and are then dragged over the surface with an irregular wriggling motion imparted by

little movements of the wrist. The reason for this is that our trout, unlike the European brown trout, prefer lively bait and will not often take a lure unless it appears to struggle. Another method, used for big trout in heavy northern waters-for instance the Rangelev Lakes-is to allow the fly to sink a few inches and then retrieve it by a series of little

Begin by fishing the nearest water to you that looks at all likely and then gradually lengthening the line and casting in all directions from you until you have got out as much line as you can comfortably handle, that is, as you can cast without having it splash, frightening the fish.

Few anglers, even the best, can make fly alight gently at a greater distance than forty-five feet, and you may be satisfied with forty. This may look like a miserably short distance compared with the casts you have seen made in Madison Square Garden by Leonard and Mills and Darling, but don't let that bother you. Tournament fly casting is vastly different from fishing, as these gentlemen would be the first to assure you. The rolling hoop cast, which is mostly employed in tournaments is a poor method of casting the fly in actual

WHEN THE TROUT RISES

When you see a trout rise to your fly strike the moment he appears to reach it, whether you see him actually take it or not. If you hesitate he will spit it out and depart. One may strike too quickly, but the prevailing sin is to strike too slowly, especially

in quiet water. In quick water the current helps the angler and the fish often hooks himself. Leave the "gentle turn of the wrist" to the books and give a smart jerk.

When you have him be careful to keep a taut line. Keep the line under the forefinger, but not with too much pressure, so that a quick rush will take out line and not break tip or leader.

Be in no hurry to land the fish. Play him completely out; make it a perfect job. even though your neighbor may be pulling in two to your one.

When he seems exhausted lead gently but firmly up to the net, but look out for another run when he sees it. At the last float him over the net and he is

If he is of decent size and you have not yet taken enough, seize him with the left hand, putting the fingers into the gills, and give him a sharp knock on the head with the back of a knife or other instrument; or bend his head over backward, breaking his neck. In no case allow a fish or any other living thing to suffer an instant longer than is necessary. Killing is the only regrettable part of sporting and should be done with as much expedition and neatness as possible.

And now "whanne ye purpoos to goo on your disportes on fyshing," as Dame Berners would say, I wish you all kinds of good SEEKING LONG ISLAND TROUT. of a mo

SPORT TO BE HAD AT PRESERVES AND PUBLIC STREAMS.

Against the Came Laws Eisewhere in the East to Catch Them—Clubmen Use Light Rods and Dainty Artificial Files -Outsiders Fish With Ordinary Balt. Long Islanders, resident and by adoption

who have the seat for fishing in their souls went after trout yesterday. The anglers included scores who sought the public brooks, a division in which the trippers from New York were prominent, and scores of clubmen who have the privileges of the stocked and reserved waters. The trains on Friday night and early yesterday transported many of the anglers from town to the happy hunting grounds, and when chance made them neighbors in the smoking cars, the clubmen and outsiders travelled together in amity. They were not rivals these seekers after the early trout, for their lines were to be cast under very different Those bound for the public waters often

carried bait pails and their high wading boots were rolled into a bundle. A few had rods, but the others expected to throw their lines from a sapling cut on the bank of the brook The clubmen who carried rods had them in cases, the nattiest being of leather with caps on the top. They were like golf club bags, but longer for rods with but two joints. A case might hold two or three rods, but as they are light the bag had only a handgrip and not the shoulder straps needed on a heavy leather golf bag Bait fishing is tabooed at the clubs, except in midsummer on deep ponds at one or two of them, and the clubmen glanced at the bait pails with somewhat supercilious looks. In inner pockets they had wallet filled with artificial flies and casts all ready on long snells, and, as the choice of lured was on their minds, they occasionally broke off a conversation to clutch suddenly at the pocketbooks to feel if they were safe, as travellers are always warned not to do if they are carrying sums of money. As many of the club members were empty handed as the patrons of the public streams Their rods were awaiting them in the racks at the clubs, and after a brief overhauling would be all ready to use.

Most of the bait pails were empty, but in some there were earthworms packed in damp moss, and one angler had a dozen lively baby frogs secured from the South with which he expected to have great sport. The clubmen talked openly of their destinations and of their hopes to land the full stint allowed to a rod in one day. On the contrary, none of the fishermen bound for open streams would give away the location of his quest. An angler who knows a good bit of fishing zealously guards the knowledge. If a callow stranger asked for information the old hands would dilate on the good fishing at some place ten or twenty miles from their own stamping grounds and, to cover their tracks the more thoroughly, few of the veterans bought tickets for the village near which they intended to fish. As it was, whenever s couple of the seekers for public fishing happened to alight at the same station, al friendship ceased and they parted at once

to go different ways. As always, the reward for the fishermer to get out for the virgin day of the sport was as good as could be expected. The brooks and ponds were flushed from the melted snow, and as this meant the trout had plenty of natural food they were not too ravenous in rising to the fly or bait. But both clubmen and outsiders were well contented, and, until the last day of August, trout will be fair game on Long Island To avoid wasting a day when March 31 falls on Sunday the Long Island trout fishermen some years ago had the game law amended to open their season on the last Saturday of the month. In Orange county, where the Tuxedo club preserves give good early fishing, the season opens to-morrow, but otherwise, except on a stream in Cayuga county, the open season in New York and the Eastern States generally, begins on April 15. It is against the law for trout to be sold or possessed in New York city in the close season, but an exception is made of Long Island trout. On this account the fishermen who returned to town last night with well filled creels could not be held up by the game wardens, and when fortunate enough to obtain the Long Island trout, restaurants and hotels were enabled

to feature them on the bills of fare. The south side of Long Island is honey combed with fresh water ponds that empty into salt water, the largest being those that supply the brooks and streams that flow into Great South Bay. Many of the ponds are feeders of the Brooklyn water supply. At Great River the South Side Sportsme's Club has liberated thousands of rainbow trout, and, as Long Island trout often go from stream to stream in the brackish water of ebb tides the fish bred for private streams, no doubt, escape into open waters. On the north side there are many public ponds and brooks. A person who drops into any of the Long Island villages will be able to hire a guide who will get him trout fishing on free water, or on semi-private waters, where he will not have to pay more than \$1 a pound for the fish he gets. Year after year lists of the public streams are printed, but the directory is not to be taken too seriously.

A hungry man seeking a trout breakfast on this sort of information will be wise to bring along a ham sandwich. The best advice is, "Seek and ye shall find."

"I'm going to fish a stream that crosses my country place," remarked one of yesterday's trippers. "It runs from a mill pond to the bay for over a mile, and on my ground isn't over two wards wide, but it ground isn't over two yards wide, but it contains deep pools shaded by alder bushes. Just for fun one morning last August I fished the likely pools, and darned if I didn't catch a dozen nice trout, 'bout three to the pound. Never knew there was a trout there and I'm going to onen the season rout there, and I'm going to open the season a style this year." This resident, unless on the job very early

yesterday morning, is very apt to have found a couple of the village boys fishing it with worms. The Long Island lads know it with worms. The Long Island lads know every likely spot for trout in their bailiwick and get many a good fish from streams the summer resident who owns the property has thought barren, if he has given the matter any thought at all. A point that aids the boys in their monopoly is that the average south side cottager only passes the summer months on Long Island and is then most intent on salt water bathing and sailing. If he goes fishing it is to troil for bluefish off Fire Island.

It is different with the members of the

It is different with the members of the sporting clubs. Many of them have country houses near their club and understand fully the sporting possibilities of the neighborhood, but the majority of the members only run down for fishing trips or in the fall to shoot quail. Duck shooting is a winter sport and usually not in the schedule of the sporting clubs, being a matter of special arrangement. The largest of the Long Island clubs have rooms and accommodations for the families of the members, and, as at the Tuxedo Club the year through, in midsummer they are as populous as louses near their club and understan in midsummer they are as populous as hotels. The clubs are limited stock companies, a condition of membership being panies, a condition of membership being the ownership of one share and no member to own more than one. The shares all sell at premiums, but the possession of one does not carry the privileges of membership. The holder must be balloted for and elected, as at any other club. A person who receives a share by inheritance, for instance, may not thereby claim the rights

of a member. He must stand his chance of being "pilled" the same as any one else. The Mill Neck is the best known club on the north shore of Long Island. It owns 100 acres, including Francis's pond and brook, and the members enjoy fine natural The Mill Neck is the best known dub on the north shore of Long Island. It owns 100 acres, including Francis's pond and brook, and the members enjoy fine natural trout fishing. There are thirty members and the shares are \$1,000 each. The Suffolk Club at Brookhaven also depends on natural trout, but when small ones are caught they are kept alive and placed in a retaining pond, to be liberated again when of a suitable size into the fishing waters. There is also the Carman's River Club and three clubs are on the Nissequogue River and ponds near Smithtewn, the Nissequogue, wyandauch and Rassapreague, the latter owning 100 acres and having but four members. A club that gives both trout fishing and excellent quall shooting is the Long Island Country Club at Eastport. It has 1,000 acres on lease and the right to use 8,000 more. There are forty members, who are shareholders and pay an initiation fee of \$100 and yearly dues of \$125. The shares have gone up from \$500 to \$1,000 within a year or so.

year or so.

They had trouble with a fungous growth on the trout in the retaining ponds at the Long Island Country Club last spring, a trouble that all clubs have at times with trouble that all clubs have at times with fish kept in reserve until large enough to be liberated, but prompt treatment checked the disorder. The trout in the fishing ponds were not affected. The members are limited to fourteen fish a day, and those who tried their luck yesterday found the trout lusty and full of fight. Although no one could tempt him to rise at a fly, the "Ancient Mariner" of the pond was in his favorite post near the dam. This is a beautifully marked three pound trout that is too wise to take the hook and has kept s too wise to take the hook and has kep the members guessing for two seasons. novel feature at this clubhouse is t nineteen rooms are owned outright members, not only as to furniture but members, not only as to furniture but in actuality, under an agreement at the building of the structure. There are fourteen other sleeping rooms, aside from the general clubrooms and, as with the South Side Sportsmen's Club, it is visited by the families of members and their guests.

Much has been written of the South Side Sportsmen's Club, which if not the pioneer is the model organization of the sout in this

Sportsmen's Club, which if not the pioneer is the model organization of the sort in this country. The club owns 3,500 acres at Oakdale, bordering on the estates of W. Bayard Cutting and W. K. Vanderbilt. There is a chain of ponds connected by the Connetquot brook, which enters into Great River. The brook fishing is divided into five sections, and when there is a rush the members draw lots for them. There are twenty boats scattered among the ponds, with men to row them, and ten boats on the with men to row them, and ten boats on the upper part of Great River, which is public below the South road bridge. The day's stint to a rod is eighteen trout and nothing is taken less than six inches. The brook trout run as heavy as two pounds, but this as record catch in a season. The club has a perfectly equipped hatchery, and 120,000 three-year-old trout are turned into the three-year-old trout are turned into the waters each year. A surplus is sold to other clubs. In the retaining ponds the fish are fed with live minnows, which is the case now at all clubs, and gives better results than chopped liver or a similar diet. When turned out the trout have to hustle for themselves. Since 1876 the records show that fifty tone of trout have been caught. that fifty tons of trout have been caught The best records were in 1896, when 16,385 were caught, weighing 6,608 pounds, and in 1897, when the catch of 15,608 weighed 6,729 pounds. More than 14,000 trout furnished sport last year, and the scales revealed an

aggregate weight of 5,000 pounds.

Bait fishing is permitted for German trout which after having propagated ten years ago the members are now seeking to exterminate as a nuisance. A fifteen pound German trout has been caught, but they are not wanted as they won't take a fly and are as coarse on the table as carp. In midsummer some of the members try "dipping," which is to cast with live insects "dipping," which is to cast with five insects impaled on small hooks. Yesterday the artificial flies were used, those with silver bodies being well taken and also the black gnat. Cahill and Montreal, the latter being made attractive by tips of junglecook feathers over the wings. Dry fly fishing had also some followers. In this form of fishing, which is the favorite in England, a trout is stalked with the core of a hunter after antestalked with the care of a hunter after ante-ope. When a trout is located in a stream a study is made of the ephemerida it is feeding on and the angler drops a made fiv of the sort so that it will float over the fish. The fish must be fooled into thinking he is The flies for dry fishing vary litt! to the casual eye, but to the adepts each has its place, and if needs must the experts are prepared to make and tie a new fly on the spot, using the insect the trout is rising to as a model. To land a trout after a couple of hours of such striving is the same of sport to a dry fly angler. A South Side Sports-men's Club member when in England offered a friend of the dry fly clan, after watching him trying all sorts of casts for half an hour, a "coachman" from his flybook, with the emark. "I have seldom seen a fish refuse

"Thank you, no." replied the Englishman.
"I do not use a lure to catch trout."

There are two clubhouses at the South
Side Sportsmen's Club. A new annex is
in the colonial style and used mostly by the colonial style and used mostly by the family parties, while the old clubhouse is a rambling cottage of many additions and wery old. Racks filled with the split bam-boo rods of the members are on each side of the main hall, which is decorated with many trophies of fishing and shooting. The many trophies of hanng and shooting. The club makes a safetuary of its grounds for deer and keepers to guard them. On the few open days for deer shooting they flock to the grounds in vast numbers. The non-extinction of the Long Island red deer is without doubt due to the club, and to re-tain the full confidence of the breed a gun is never discharged on the grounds. The lounging room of the cottage has been the scene of jolly parties for generations of trout fishermen on the night after the opening day's sport. If its oaken ceiling could speak what good stories it could tell! The club dates to 1866, although its fishing records have only been kent since the start of the hatchery in 1876. The memberstart of the hatchery in 1876. The memberahip is limited to 100, who hay \$250 initiation fee and \$200 a year. The shares were originally \$200 each, and the incorporators of 1866 were Bradish Johnson, John F. Develin, J. A. Griswold, Recorder John K. Hackett, Judge G. G. Barnard, W. C. Barrett, F. H. Arthur, Sheppard F. Knapp, G. G. Wilmerding, Preson H. Hodges, Jones Rogers and C. L. Tiffany, Sr. Now the shares sell for \$2,500, and there is a waiting list of applicants for a first choice.

At a recent meeting George P. Slade was

At a recent meeting George P. Slade was reelected president and Frank L. Hall, secretary, the formality gone through with every year, for at this club the old order does every year, for at this club the old order does not change. Andrew Carnegie is a member, and before being cantivated by golf used to try the fishing. The members are clannish. A new rule this season forbids the admission of guests until the third Saturday in May. The permission had formerly been accorded by the last Saturday in April. The reason is that the members want to keep the spring fishing they opened yesterday all to themselves. There will be no day all to themselves. There will be no open season for guests until the fishing

HEIGHT OF WAVES.

Frenchman Says Observation From the Decks of Ships Has Created an Illuston. M. Bertin, a Frenchman, has been mak-

applied to them. 2,590 feet from crest to crest, he says, and their average duration was 23 seconds. They were not very high, only about 50

ng new observations of the size of ocean

billows. He says they are greatly over-

estimated when the term "mountainous" is

feet or one-fiftieth of their span. Indeed, he is of opinion that the greatest height ever reached by waves in open water is fifty feet, and he accounts for higher estimates by saying that they have heretofore been observed for the most part from the decks of ships, and the perspective effect resulting from looking up along the slopes has misled the eye and judgment.

When waves become breakers, striking against some obstacle, there is no doubt that great masses of water are hurled to a height of 100 feet and volumes of spray

neight of 100 feet and volumes of spray are flung and blown still higher.

Very few waves 2,500 feet long and 50 feet high are ever encountered, he adds. In average bad weather, the waves run from 160 to 320 feet from crest to crest and their height seldom exceeds 33 feet. Their duration is not over \$ to \$ seconds.

STORIES OF BIRD LIFE. | PLY FISHING IN MIDWINTER

Eagle Seizes a Dog. en correspondence St. Paul Pioneer Press. M. Cohen, a trapper, who has a camp at Chedi Lake, just east of the James River was examining his traps yesterday when a huge eagle swooped down and, seizing a dog which accompanied the trapper started off with its prey.

Cohen, however, shot the bird before the Cohen, however, shot the bird belo measured 7 feet 7% and a half-inches from encircle a man's wrist. Cohen intends to have the bird stuffed and mounted.

Rooks Observe Sunday. From the Country Life All the animal world appears to know a Sun-iay from a week day. There is a tradition Lancashire, and perhaps elsewhere, that

the rooks always commence building on the irst Sunday in March. This has been frequently verified by observation, and the punctuality of the rooks might almost claim to exceed thelimits of coincidence.

Wanderings of a Seaguit

From the Westminster Gazette. On October 28 last there was shot at Ouchy on Lake Leman, a seagull aged about sixteen months which was found to be wearing on its claw a silver ring engraved with the words "Vogel station, Rossitten 20." Rossitten s situated in the Lido of the Courland lagoon, between Konigsberg and Memel, in the Baltic, ,500 kilometres from the Lake of Geneva.

M. Forel of Lausanne communicated with Dr. J. Thienemann, director of the ornithologieal station at Rossitten. According to the latest notes the gull No. 20 was hatched there and was marked with the ring when a few weeks old, before it could fly, on July 4, 1905. t seems probable that it had thus made two winter migrations before it fell a victim to he human barbarian.

Partridge Dushes Into Car.

Ashland correspondence St. Paul Dispatch While the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic passenger train was bowling along at the rate f forty miles an hour, near Sanborn, a partridge flying at full speed dashed through the ear window, breaking a double thickness

The bird fell dead on the floor. A traveling man seated in the place by the window was covered with shattered glass, but escaped erious injury. A man sitting in the seat behind him was struck by a piece of the flying glass and an artery in the rear part of his neck

Great Auk's Eggs. From the Country Gentleman. It is stated that a single well known firm of aturalists which within the last year or two has secured for American and Continental collections no fewer than nine great auk's eggs as well as two stuffed specimens of the and two of its skeletons, the total value of all the specimens being more than £3,000. About 1820 Yarrell, the famous naturalist bought one of the eggs from a fisherman' cottage in France for two francs, or the modest sum of 1s. Sd., and in 1894 the same specimen changed hands for the considerably enhanced sum of £315. In early days men who sailed in the northern fishing fleets would occasionally bring home an auk's egg as a neat object to ornament the parlor mantelpiece, as sailors still bring domestic presents of a tropical shell or two. It is to

he feared, however, that these days are past Wild Geese Alarm a Town.

Lewiston correspondence Philadelphia Press One of those peculiar freaks of the element that occur only at long intervals took place last night, causing what many believed for ime was a shower of wild fowl. A steady snow storm prevailed during the day, followed late at night by a heavy electrical storm. Amid the heavy downpour of rain there was a drop of twenty degrees in temperature and a large flock of wild geese driven to earth by the currents in the air and attracted by the lights of the city alighted in the streets or went hissing, quacking and cackling about

as if bedlam had broken loose. Many of the residents who were suddenly awakened by the unearthly noise were driven most to the verge of pa sceptical when they hear the story of the cackling of geese awakening the sleeping residents of Rome and saving the city. wildfowl are quietly swimming about the little ponds in the adjacent fields and on the bosom of the Juniata River this morning.

Lassoed a Big Eagle.

Fairview correspondence Duluth Herald. Sherman Gardner succeeded in capturing a magnificent specimen of the bald eagle in some timber near his home, three miles

Gardner had gone to the timber to secur firewood and spied the eagle, which was esting upon the topmost branch of a tree. With a small rifle he succeeded in winging the bird and it fluttered to the ground. He approached it and endeavored to make it prisoner, but in spite of its wounded wing the bird put up a gallant fight, striking Gardner with its uninjured pinion, and tearing his clothing and lacerating his face and hands

with its sharp talons. Finally Gardner secured a lasso and suc ceeded in looping this about the neck of the eagle and then wound the balance of the rope about its wings so as to render it help less. He then took the bird home and dressed its injured wing. The eagle is one of the largest specimens ever seen in this vicinity, measuring more than seven feet from tip

Black Larks in England

From the Westminster Gazette At the last meeting of the British Ornithole gists' Club three examples of the black lark were exhibited which had been recently cap

tured in this country. These are the first recorded examples for Great Britain and were probably driven over by stress of weather, which during January was exceptionally severe and told heavily on the birds. The female of the black lark bears a strong superficial resemblance to the sky lark; but the male is very suuch hand-somer, wearing a livery of black, though this is obscured during the autumn and winter

months by rusty brown fringes to the feathers Cormorants Trained to Fish

From the London Daily Graphic Cormorants are familiar enough object fishing on the outlying rocks below the cliffs whereon they nest, or seated upon the posts which mark the course of the channel in a tidal harbor, their brilliant emerald eyes ever on the watch for fish.

But few people are perhaps aware that these great black uncouth looking birds were at one time trained in England to catch fish for the amusement of royalty. The sport was introduced into this country from the Court of France in the time of Louis XIII. the French courtiers had been taught the method of taming and training these birds by a Dutchman, whose countrymen had already learned it during their voyages in the East. For it is to the Chinese and Japanese fishermen that European nations were first

ndebted for a knowledge of the sport.

From the Sacramento Bee. Considerable trouble is being encountered by the sheepmen of American Canyon in protecting their flocks against the depredations of three enormous eagles, which have de stroyed scores of lambs under the very eyes of the herders.

A man employed on the P. Lynch ranch near Cordelia, witnessed two of the birds kill four lambs before he was given an opportunity of procuring a shotgun. The sheepmen have practically exterminated the coyotes, but will probably find a more implacable foe in the eagle.

The Willy Partridge.

From the London Daily Mail Every creature has a wonderful faculty for letermining at what distance a man, or any determining at what distance a man, or anything else, is able to strike, its capacities in this direction being far more marked than many care to acknowledge.

For instance, as firearms have been improved, the keener has become the watchfulness of partridges. They have not been slow to recognize the advantages which the modgra chokebore affords the meyera gunner.

UP IN THE NORTHERN WILDS

AROUND HUDSON BAY. One Sportsman Had Fine Times With the Trout With the Mercury at 30 Below -Railroad Men Opening Up, Inciden

tally, a Fine Field for the Angles, LACHINE, Canada, March 25.- Fly fishing for brook trout in winter at latitude 5 degrees sounds unseasonable. With the thermometer ranging from 40 degrees so 60 degrees below for a fortnight at a time there would not appear to be much spors

about it. This is stoutly controverted by

one fisherman who tried it. He had been inspecting the coast of Hude son Bay, in the interest of one of the nue merous schemes for conveying the grain of the Northwest to Europe by a line of steamers. Somewhere in the vicinity of Island he noticed in January that, cold though the weather was, there was a good deal of open water, below the numerous falls on the smaller rivers. -It is of course contrary to all the canons

of the craft that the wary trout should com to the surface in cold winter time. No fish is so foolish as a rule as to believe that by any possible chance flies could be about in zero weather. Considering, however that there is only about three months o really warm weather in those latitudes one of which is made unendurable to rive fishermen by huge mosquitoes, it is not perhaps to be wondered at that kindly nature should grant compensations to the brethren of the angle.

The surveyor had tired of the endless round of dried fish, salt goose and blubber, and baiting his book with a fragment of the dry and tasteless ptarmigan, caught a fine trout at his first attempt. His bait had been taken at or near the surface and he next day resolved to try something better than baiting a hook with frozen bait and well nigh frozen fingers.

One of the well worn salmon flies with which he had done glorious execution in those almost virgin waters the previous séason was tried, simply as an experiment, In a moment he was fast to a big fish, which raced under the ice, and back again, without breaking loose. A very slight strain was enough to land a five and a half pound brown trout.

"I had two hours of the finest kind of sport, in a contracted sort of way, that one could imagine," said the sportsman, "It was thirty something below zero-but somehow one does not realize the cold up north. I was using the heaviest kind of a salmon leader, and with the water in my favor held the fish fairly easily. But their leaping was immense. One three pound fish undertook to clear ten feet in the perpendicular right up the fall. I don't know but he would have done it, too, had he been free. Another bigger chap half wormed and half flung himself half way up. and I may have put a strain upon him, unthinkingly, for he came out straight for my head.

"I caught twenty-one beauties, three of four of them silvery white, with violet and green spots. These were probably just up from the sea, though they may have belonged to a different family. At last a lively youngster got the line around something at the bottom, and I lost my fly.

"It was then that I discovered that I had been acting foolishly in allowing the fish to fall upon the ice and die there. There was some spray from the fall, and I was about encased in ice from head to foot. As I reeled in the damp line, which I had been playing by hand, it at once froze into When I stooped to put my a solid mass. hard and fast where they lay on the ice

"There was no kicking them free either, So I contented myself with tearing cut one disfigured specimen, and made my way home with it. I sent a native with an axe for the rest, and when he had chopped them out and piled them on his traineau, you would have thought he had a quarter of a cord of firewood badly frozen over.

"After that I often fished that pool, a always with success. But after a bit I learned to take a sack along and set it upon a little pile of brush, taking pains also to put down a good pile of branches to stand upon. My feet were badly frostbitten the first day. But it was perfectly grand sport, in the clear moonlight combined with the aurora effects, which made a beautiful soft

brightness, never tiring to the eyes." Salmon abound in most of the waters; though it is reported that in some rivers they will not rise to flies. The natives get them either in traps or by spearing Occasionally this is done by night under torchlight, but usually the spear is hurled harpoon fashion into the fish, as they lie in their resting places at the bottom of

rapids, or water falls. Trout are common everywhere. Those fresh from the sea usually run to about two pounds, and are brighter in appearance than those which remain in fresh water. There is a kind of a gray trout, not the tuladi which has salmon markings near the tail and which is a stern, heavy, sulky fighter, Fish of sixteen pounds of this variety are common, and they are not taken with an ordinary fly, but upon a tiny spoon pulled rapidly along the surface. The round fish, or white scaled trout, comes up the streams in the summer in incredible droves. They are sometimes caught in quantitie by building a wicker hedge along the side of a river leaving a lane of waters six or eight feet wide, and 200 yards long. At the upper end the fence is gradually brought

to the bank, making a blind alley of the water lane so marked off. Into such a pound the fish will continue to pass until it is literally full. They never think of turning back, apparently. The to pass until it is literally full. They never think of turning back, apparently. The lower end is secured when the water is seen to be packed with the fish and then the natives wade in and use their hands or throw the fish out with a kind of willow meshed paddle. Hundreds of tons are taken that way. Most of these fish are about fifteen inches long and are broad in proportion to their length, though occasionally they run up to eight or ten pounds in weight.

in weight.
Some of the lakes contain fine red trout but these do not as a rule rise well to a fly at least in midsummer time. No one appears to have had time to try them when the salmon are rising, or in the earliest part of the summer when the trout come

n from the sea. Sometimes in winter tremendous cracks, extending for miles, will open in the frozen bay, showing perhaps twenty feet of open water. Fish make for these openings as if tired of their long impresonment under the ice. In the mouth of a large river across which such a crevasse extended the sportsman referred to took fine fish of several varieties in midwinter with his flies. Generally however, within a few hours of the erally, however, within a few hours of the opening appearing a number of seals and

opening appearing a number of seals and sea lions bob up among the fish and gulp them down in bucketfuls.

Altogether it looks as if the development of the coast of the big bay by the railway and steamboat men is going to open out a fine trout fishing country, though it is with something of a shock one learns that the Dominion Government has sold all its fishing rights along the shore to a political Dominion Government has sold all its fishing rights along the shore to a political friend for \$10. The price is ridiculous enough to make the story appear incredible. But the fact appears gravely enough in the proceedings of Parliament and has received attention from the opposition. Whether the bargain includes the river rights as well has not been made clear as yet.